



**Environmental Education Instructor  
Spring Season 2016 Internship  
March 1 – May 31**

Growing Gardens' mission is to enrich the lives of our community through sustainable urban agriculture. We envision people experiencing a direct and deep connection with plants, the land and each other. Growing Gardens unites the Boulder County community through urban agricultural projects, including: The Cultiva Youth Project (Ages 12 – 19), The Children's Peace Garden (Ages 3 – 11), Horticultural Therapy (Seniors and People with Disabilities), Fresh Food Families & Fitness, and The Community Gardens (General Public).

The spring Environmental Education Instructor's main responsibility in the spring is to lead Field Trips, After School Garden Clubs and Classroom Visits in our Children's Peace Garden. The Children's Peace Garden Program teaches children environmental stewardship, nutrition, respect for diversity, and creative self-expression to nurture a healthy, happy and well balanced child. Over 5,500 children from 3-11 participate in Children's Peace Garden programs. Environmental Education Instructors utilize engaging hands-on activities to teach participants about organic gardening, the garden as the source of food, how to prepare simple, nutritious food from the garden, and the ecology of an organic garden.

Lastly, the Education Interns will have the opportunity to learn more about vegetable production while they work in the greenhouse and gardens when not teaching.

**Environmental Education Instructor Duties**

**Instructing Field Trips, After School Garden Clubs, and Classroom Visits**

- Work closely with the Program Coordinator to teach in the Children's Peace Garden leading Field Trips, Classroom Visits and After School Garden Club. Occasionally the intern may be asked to help teach or complete tasks for the Horticultural Therapy and Community Garden programs under the supervision of the Program Coordinator.
- Teach the following gardening skills during field trips to the garden and visits to local schools:
  - Community
  - Plants and Planting
  - Insects and Pollination
  - Composting
  - Harvesting and Eating
- Assist with set up, instruction and break down or clean-up of Field Trips, After School Garden Club, and Classroom Visits.
- Manage Field Trips, Classroom Visits, After School Garden Club and volunteer activities independently once trained in all curriculums.

- Document activities through photography for reports, grant proposals and marketing.
- Conduct surveys and document attendance at all programs.
- Attend intern garden trainings and field tours.

### **Community Outreach**

- Assist with marketing for programming
- Train volunteers to teach in the garden
- Interact with the public during community outreach events
- Lead tours of the Growing Gardens Site to groups and individual volunteers

### **Event Planning and Execution**

- Assist with three weekend Plant Sales in May
- Assist with planning and teaching during Children's Peace Garden Earth Day Event in April

### **Knowledge and Skills the Intern May Acquire**

- Teaching gardening skills and topics to a wide range of populations
- Public speaking and presentation experience
- Conflict resolution and communication skills
- Gain skills and understanding of organic food starts, heirloom tomatoes, and veggies
- Small scale organic vegetable production techniques
- Working in a team environment
- The ability to work in a dynamic environment: this includes being comfortable changing tasks, working/leading diverse groups and feeling confident with a diverse population
- Create positive atmosphere for the interaction of diverse populations

### **Structure of Internship**

- Internship duration is March 1 – May 31, 2016
- Intern position is 15 hours per week. Note: hours may vary between weeks; however the average number of hours per week will be 15 hours. Hours primarily take place during the week, however there is some required weekend work
- Orientation meeting with all GG interns, mentor, intern supervisor and additional GG staff
- Intern will be working closely with a Mentor from Growing Gardens' staff who will oversee all daily activities
- Interns will meet with GG mentor every other week for the duration of the contract
- Interns will report to a Staff Meeting once during the season

Learning Objectives Contract – Developed by second week of internship. This includes: position description, educational objectives, learning activities and skill development.

Evaluation – A midpoint evaluation and end of internship evaluation will include intern self evaluation, supervisor and mentor evaluation.

### **Benefits of Interning with Growing Gardens**

- Hands-on experience making a positive impact in the lives of children, teens and adults
- Friendly, relaxed environment
- Good experience; develops marketable teaching and group leading skills
- Classroom training offered through Growing Gardens classes
- Access to a wide variety of organic seeds and plant starts

- Possibility to garden in one of our plots at our Hawthorn Garden site
- Fresh vegetables from the garden as the season permits
- Garden is located with easy access to public transportation
- This is a “For Credit” internship and qualifies for credit at the university level.

### **Qualifications**

We are looking for someone who enjoys working with teens, children and adult. Basic experience in gardening and teaching is required. Applicant must be CPR and First Aid certified by March 1, 2016. The intern should enjoy working outside and be able to serve as a mature, healthy role model for children and teens. Our staff and youth enjoy their time together in the garden and we'd love for someone with a sense of humor to join us while we have fun and do good work. The Environmental Education Instructor must be responsible, dedicated and organized. This experience is a great opportunity for someone interested in a job in education, urban agriculture or community organizing.

### **To apply**

**Applications are due by February 1, 2016 but will remain open until filled.**

Send cover letter, completed application and updated resume to Francisco Di Poi at [francisco@growinggardens.org](mailto:francisco@growinggardens.org).